

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

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Monroe County District Attorney's Office

Weekly Newsletter



Welcome to the weekly newsletter from Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley.

Our New Normal

Last Friday, we received the verdict convicting Kelvin Vickers of all counts, including Aggravated Murder for the murder of Rochester Police Officer Anthony Mazurkiewicz. First Assistant District Attorney Perry Duckles and I worked tirelessly on this case for the past year, but especially over the past two months. After helping to secure justice for the victims and the community, I am already looking ahead to my next trial.

It is unusual that an elected District Attorney in a county of this size takes on trials, let alone three homicide trials in six months. Unfortunately, this is the current state of the Monroe County District Attorney's Office.

With homicides at a record high three year average, myself and the ADAs in my office cannot catch a break. We are assigning more and more ADAs to homicides, cases that are historically reserved for the most experienced attorneys. Our small group of prosecutors that typically take these cases are burnt out from back-to-back murder trials, which has led to many more attorneys stepping up to take these difficult cases. I am so proud of these amazing attorneys who continue to take these cases, they are doing a great job.

My next trial beings next month, on November 27, 2023, and this trial is nearly 40 years in the making. This is the People vs. Timothy Williams, which I am prosecuting with Assistant District Attorney Lisa Gray, Special Counsel to the District Attorney.

Wendy was raped and murdered in her neighborhood on Thanksgiving Day in 1984. It was not long until this case turned cold. Years later, this case was always on our minds and on the Rochester Police Department's radar. In 2020, using a familial DNA search and a thorough investigation from the Rochester Police Department, my office, and the Monroe County Crime Lab, Timothy Williams was identified as the offender.

This is the life of a prosecutor. There are no breaks. There is accountability and justice. I am so proud of the ADAs in this office who give their all on every single trial. On to the next one.

Sandra

Homicide Update

So far in 2023:

City of Rochester Total:
49

Monroe County Total: 54

New York State Bar Exam

This week, the results of the most recent New York State Bar Exam were released. This exam is the culmination of three years of law school and extensive preparation. Notoriously difficult, this is the exam that permits you to practice law in the State of New York.

From law school, to the preparation, to awaiting the official results, this can be an extremely difficult times for those with recent Juris Doctorates. These men and women graduate from law school, then prepare for this life-changing July exam. We have several Assistant District Attorneys who found out about their test results and I want to offer my heartfelt congratulations!

Congratulations to:

Assistant District Attorney Jamie Englerth
Assistant District Attorney Thomas Anderson
Assistant District Attorney Nicholas Gonzalez
Assistant District Attorney Kirby Leggett



These young attorneys are one step closer to being fully admitted to the New York State Bar, and I am so proud of each one of you!

To those who may have failed the exam, do not give up! This exam does not predict your ability as an attorney and I have confidence that you will pass the test and do great things.

Highlights from the MCDA's Office

19-year-old **Dashaun Tubbs** was sentenced by New York State Supreme Court Justice Moran to 25 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision for Manslaughter in the 1st Degree to run consecutively to 5 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. This sentence comes following a guilty plea to Manslaughter in the 1st Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree for the shooting death of 19-year-old Sideic Robinson. On the night of January 14, 2023, Rochester Police Officers reported to a Burger King on Lyell Avenue in the City of Rochester for reports of a person shot. Upon arrival, officers located Burger King employee, Sideic Robinson, suffering from

multiple gunshot wounds. He was immediately transported to Strong Memorial Hospital, where he died from his injuries. After a thorough investigation, Dashaun Tubbs was arrested for the homicide and his involvement in a separate shooting of a 17-year-old on February 23, 2023. He pled guilty to Manslaughter 1st for the shooting death of Sideic Robinson and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree for the February gun possession. The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau, and Senior Assistant District Attorney Timothy Boucher, also of the Special Investigations Bureau.

New York State Supreme Court Justice Argento sentenced 39-year-old **Jarrelle Williams** to 65 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections. Jarrell Williams was previously convicted by a jury of all charges, including two counts of Murder in the 2nd Degree, Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Robbery in the 1st Degree, and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree for the murder of Sharell Brown and attempted murder of another victim. On April 15, 2022, during the course of a robbery in a house on Phelps Avenue, Jarrelle Williams shot and killed Sharell Brown and shot and severely injured another victim. The living victim was able to stagger to a nearby store where the Rochester Police Department responded for a report of a man who had been shot. Upon arrival, the victim pointed the Officers to the house across where Sharell Brown was murdered. The Rochester Police Department and the New York State Division of Parole identified Jarrelle Williams as the offender, who was on parole at the time of his offense. Following the murder, Jarrelle Williams cut off his electronic ankle monitor and fled to Alabama. The New York State Division of Parole located him in Alabama on May 9, 2022, where he was arrested as a parole absconder. Once extradited back to New York, Jarrelle Williams was charged for the murder of Sharell Brown. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department, with assistance from the New York State Division of Parole, the United States Marshals Violent Felony Fugitive Task Force, and the Monroe County District Attorney's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Robin Catalano, Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Alfonso Davis was convicted by Monroe County Court Judge Dollinger of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree following a bench trial. On September 22, 2022 at 4:11AM, he brought a 9mm loaded semiautomatic handgun into the Frederick Douglas Greater Rochester International Airport, concealed in an arm sling. He was caught at the TSA screening. The handgun was loaded with 1 round in the chamber and 13 rounds in the magazine. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau. Alfonso Davis will be sentenced on January 10, 2024 in front of Monroe County Court Judge Dollinger.

Marcheri Spencer was indicted on Operator Leave Scene of Incident Resulting in Death in relation to the death of Evellin Santos. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Raymond Benitez, Chief of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Christopher Gagner, Jr. was indicted on Sexual Abuse in the 1st Degree, Criminal Sexual Act in the 2nd Degree, Sexual Abuse in the 2nd Degree, Endangering the Welfare of a Child, and Criminal Contempt in the 2nd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kevin Sunderland, of the Special Victims Unit.

Keniyah Vickers was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to an illegal weapon possession on September 28, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Timothy Boucher, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Eric Leslie was indicted on Murder in the 2nd Degree and four counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the homicide of Vernel Rose. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Michael Harrigan, Chief of the Homicide Bureau.

Charlotte Simmons was indicted on Assault in the 2nd Degree, Attempted Assault in the 2nd Degree, and Criminal Mischief in the 4th Degree in relation to a domestic incident on October 2, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kaylee Rizzari, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Ramell Libbett was indicted on Robbery in the 1st Degree, two counts of Burglary in the 1st Degree, and Assault in the 2nd Degree in relation to an armed robbery on October 3, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Nathaniel Trafton was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on October 2, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Timothy Boucher, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Teodoro Rivera, Jr. was indicted on Murder in the 2nd Degree, Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree, Attempted Assault in the 1st Degree, three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4th Degree, Arson in the 3rd Degree, and Tampering with Physical Evidence in relation to the homicide of Sayyos Rios and attempted homicide of Chad Lewis. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Anthony Freeman, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Task Force.

Robert Downs was indicted on three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Reckless Endangerment in the 1st Degree, two counts of Criminal Mischief in the 4th Degree, Assault in the 3rd Degree, and Menacing in the 2nd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wagner, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Chrisshon Thacker was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on October 4, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Daveion Green was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 1st Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 2nd Degree, six counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, and two counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Randy Howard, Jr. was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of illegal firearms on March 17, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Stephen Ryck, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Larry Sturgis, Jr. was indicted on Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, and two counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of narcotics and a firearm. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

MCDA in the Community

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley joined senior citizens from the community at Senior Academy, a program run by Deputy Sheriff Levy, who works at the Hall of Justice. Sandra, in addition to Family Court Judge Ruhlmann, the Monroe County Public Defender Julie Cianca, and Monroe County Court Judge Randall shared information about their responsibilities and answered questions. Thank you to the seniors for the engaging conversation!



Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley and First Assistant District Attorney Perry Duckles joined radio host Bob Lonsberry on WHAM1180 on Monday's show to discuss the People vs. Kelvin Vickers. Thank you Bob, for having the prosecutors on the show to discuss this four week-long trial that impacted the entire community. It was a privilege to attain justice for Officer Mazurkiewicz, Officer Seng, Richard Collinge, and MyJel Rand.



Members of the Monroe County District Attorney's Office attended the 16th Annual Walk with Willow event this upcoming weekend. This 1.3 mile walk raised money for the Willow Domestic Violence Center.



MCDA in the News

<https://cnycentral.com/news/local/anthony-mazurkiewicz-kelvin-vickers-police-officer-killed-in-the-line-of-duty-rochester-police-officer-involved-shooting-crime-investigation-monroe-county-homicide-murder-suspect>

<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/new-york/articles/2023-10-13/man-convicted-in-ambush-killing-of-police-officer-other-murders-during-violent-spree-in-new-york>

<https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/man-convicted-in-ambush-killing-of-police-18425183.php>

<https://hoodline.com/2023/10/boston-man-found-guilty-in-deadly-rochester-rampage-police-officer-two-more-lives-lost/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-gets-30-years-in-prison-for-killing-at-burger-king-on-lyell-avenue/>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2023/10/13/kelvin-vickers-convicted-murder-rochester-officer-anthony-mazurkiewicz-richard-collinge-myjel-rand/71166205007/>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2023/10/19/brighton-ax-murder-case-reaches-final-chapter-as-ny-court-refuses-posthumous-appeal/71045237007/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/a-long-long-marathon-ends-with-kelvin-vickers-murder-conviction/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/kelvin-vickers-anthony-mazurkiewicz-officer-killed-in-line-of-duty-rochester-police-monroe-county-crime-investigation-officer-involved-shooting>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/da-jury-made-right-call-convicting-kelvin-vickers/>

<https://www.wgrz.com/article/news/crime/man-convicted-ambush-killing-police-officer-other-murders-new-york/71-89e60377-d4b2-4931-8729-b51f86d4cff4>



We are hiring attorneys! If you are a recent law school graduate or an experienced attorney and are interested in a career in criminal law and public service, apply with us today! More information is available on monroecounty.gov/da.